

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. An absorbent garment comprising:

a front body panel comprising a pair of side portions defining opposite side edges, and a landing portion extending between said side portions, wherein  
5 said landing portion and each of said side portions are separated by a line of weakness;

a rear body panel comprising opposite side edges, wherein said opposite side edges of said front and rear body panels are joined to form a side seam; and

10 a hook-type fastener member comprising a carrier member secured to said side portions of said front body panel in front of said side seam and a plurality of hooks extending from said carrier member, wherein at least a portion of said plurality of said hooks are engaged with said landing portion.

15 2. The invention of claim 1 wherein said landing portion and said side portions are breakably attached along said line of weakness.

3. The invention of claim 1 wherein said line of weakness comprises a perforation.

20 4. The invention of claim 1 wherein said lines of weakness extend longitudinally across an entire length of said front body panel between said side portions and said landing portion.

25 5. The invention of claim 1 wherein said landing portion comprises a point-unbonded non-woven material engaged by said at least said portion of said plurality of said hooks.

6. The invention of claim 1 wherein said landing portion comprises a non-woven spunbond material engaged by said at least said portion of said plurality of said hooks.

5 7. A method of securing an absorbent garment to a user comprising:  
providing said absorbent garment comprising front body panel  
comprising a pair of side portions defining opposite side edges, and a landing  
portion extending between said side portions, wherein said landing portion and  
each of said side portions are separated by a line of weakness; a rear body panel  
10 comprising opposite side edges, wherein said opposite side edges of said front  
and rear body panels are joined to form a side seam; and a hook-type fastener  
member comprising a carrier member secured to said side portions of said front  
body panel in front of said side seam and a plurality of hooks extending from  
said carrier member; and  
15 engaging said landing portion of said front body panel with at least a  
portion of said plurality of said hooks.

8. The invention of claim 7 wherein said side portions are breakably  
attached to said landing portion along said line of weakness, and further  
20 comprising disconnecting said side portions from said landing portion along  
said line of weakness.

9. The invention of claim 8 wherein said absorbent garment has a pair of  
leg openings, and further comprising inserting a user's legs through said leg  
25 openings prior to said disconnecting said side portions from said landing  
portion.

10. The invention of claim 8 wherein said absorbent garment has a pair of  
leg openings, and further comprising inserting a user's legs through said leg  
30 openings after said disconnecting said side portions from said landing portion.

11. The invention of claim 7 wherein said line of weakness comprises a  
perforation.
- 5 12. The invention of claim 7 wherein said lines of weakness extend  
longitudinally across an entire length of said front body panel between said side  
portions and said landing portion.
- 10 13. The invention of claim 7 wherein said landing portion comprises a point-  
unbonded non-woven material engaged by said at least said portion of said  
plurality of said hooks.
- 15 14. The invention of claim 7 wherein said landing portion comprises a non-  
woven spunbond material engaged by said at least said portion of said plurality  
of said hooks.
- 20 15. An absorbent garment comprising:  
a body panel having a length;  
a fastening member comprising at least two engagement portions  
releasably engaging said body panel, each of said engagement portions having  
an engagement length, wherein the sum of said engagement lengths is at least  
about 20% of said body panel length.
- 25 16. The invention of claim 15 wherein the sum of said engagement lengths is  
less than about 90% of said body panel length.
17. The invention of claim 16 wherein the sum of said engagement lengths is  
between about 30% and about 80% of said body panel length.

18. The invention of claim 17 wherein the sum of said engagement lengths is between about 40% and about 60% of said body panel length.

19. The invention of claim 15 wherein said body panel comprises a front  
5 body panel.

20. The invention of claim 19 wherein said fastening member comprises a carrier member having a length and further comprising a rear body panel comprising a side edge having a length secured to said front body panel along a  
10 seam having a length.

21. The invention of claim 20 wherein said length of said carrier member is at least about 50% of said length of said seam.

15 22. The invention of claim 21 wherein said length of said carrier member is at least about 90% of said length of said seam.

23. The invention of claim 20 wherein said length of said carrier member is at least about 50% of said length of said side edge of said rear body panel.  
20

24. The invention of claim 23 wherein said length of said carrier member is at least about 90% of said length of said side edge of said rear body panel.

25. The invention of claim 20 wherein said carrier member is fixedly secured to said rear body panel.  
25

26. The invention of claim 20 wherein said front body panel comprises a pair of side portions and a landing member extending between said side portions, wherein said at least two engagement portions are releasably engaged

with said landing member, and wherein said carrier member is fixedly secured to said side portions of said front body panel.